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unday, March 21, 1976 5-D

Vandy Rally Tips Western

A three-run rally in the 10th inning carried Vanderbilt to a 8-7 win over Western Kentucky here yesterday.

Vandy dropped an earlier game to Miami of Ohio 3-1.

Trailing 7-5 after a Western rally in the 10th inning, rightfielder Cliff Robertson delivered a bases-loaded double to tie the score. The bases were loaded again intentionally, setting up Derek Carrier's single to drive in the winning run.

Jack Nuismer picked up the win for Vandy after he came on in relief in the ninth inning.

In the other game, Ted Govederica took a loss in falling to Miami of Ohio 3-1. Steve Retzsch got the win in relief. Miami got the winning runs in the ninth off a homer by Rick Snodgrass.

Miami of Ohio took the third game with an 11-8 win over Western Kentucky.

Miami Ohio 000 000 102 — 3 8 1
Vanderbilt 000 000 010 — 1 6 3
Earley, Retzsch (7) and Jenkins; Govederica and Anglea, Gregory (8). HR: Snodgrass (M).

Western Ky. 100 000 004 2 — 7 8 0
Vanderbilt 100 002 110 3 — 8 11 3
Hackett, Scheckles (10) and Moss, Kendall (9); Lane, Wiles (9), Nuismer (9) and Wright. HR: Ceck (W).

OVC Baseball Teams Give Vanderbilt Fits

By George Leonard

Can a Vanderbilt baseball team that is having all sorts of trouble winning against Ohio Valley Conference opposition manage to contend for the Southeastern Conference pennant?

While the answer may not be breathlessly awaited, it shouldn't be long forthcoming.

Perhaps not beyond this weekend. The Commodores, 2-1 in the SEC thanks to taking their opening series at Florida, will meet Georgia at Athens in three games.

Frankly, prospects of regaining the East Division title Vanderbilt won four straight years (1971-74) don't look promising. Not if last weekend's performance is the criterion.

The Commodores were whipped by Tennessee Tech 6-4 Sunday at McGugin Field. Murray beat them last Thursday. They had to score three runs in the 10th inning Saturday to nose out Western Kentucky 8-7 after losing earlier in the day to Miami of Ohio 3-1.

What's the trouble?

A little of everything, it seems. Errors are frequent (10 in the last three games), clutch hits too few and pitching not strong enough in late innings.

Disappointed Western gets another crack at

Vanderbilt Tuesday at Bowling Green. Then comes the "big game" between the Commodores, now 7-8, and David Lipscomb, 4-1 and facing Illinois Benedictine in a doubleheader here this afternoon, Wednesday at 3 at McGugin Field.

A PAIR of Tennessee Tech lefthanders, Jay Eble of Oakdale and Ralph Mallicoat of Knoxville, combined to stop Vanderbilt Sunday.

Eble held the Commodores to two hits until Mike Wright and Steve Chandler led off the eighth inning with long home runs over the tall leftcenterfield screen. Immediately, Eble was replaced by Mallicoat and quickly Vandy loaded the bases with none out. Then two more runs scored with none out.

Just as suddenly, the fire was extinguished, three runners dying as three hitters failed. The tying run was left on base in the ninth.

Tennessee Tech collected seven hits off freshman lefthander Ricky Kittrell. Bill Bray drove in a pair with a double early in the game but it was a run-scoring triple by Roger Parley in the eighth that really did in the Commodores, producing the needed victory margin. Mike Tipton singled in an insurance run in the ninth.

Earlier, Tech right-fielder Don Canary, who is 5-8 and 156, was ejected and a brouhaha almost developed after he pushed catcher Wright, 6-4, and had words with plate umpire Grady Warren.

Canary struck out and took offense when Wright apparently bumped him unintentionally as he prepared to fire the ball around the infield.

Tenn. Tech 002 000 211 — 6 7 1
Vanderbilt 000 000 040 — 4 6 4
Eble, Mallicoat (8) and Smith; Kittrell and Wright. HR—Wright (V), Chandler (V).

Against Austin Peay

Western baseballers open conference slate

By JIM WISEMAN
Daily News Sports Writer
Western's baseball team, which has compiled a lackluster 3-7 record so far this season, gets down to the nitty-gritty Saturday afternoon at Denes Field.

They host Austin Peay in a doubleheader at 1 p.m., and it just so happens that's the first conference game of the season for the Toppers.

Austin Peay and Western are two of four teams in the Western Division of the Ohio Valley Conference, while the other two are Middle Tennessee and Murray.

Following the completion of the season, the Western Division champ will play the Eastern Division champ in a "Best-two-out-of-three" series to see who captures the overall OVC crown. The four teams in the Eastern Division are Eastern Kentucky, Morehead, East Tennessee and Tennessee Tech.

Jim Pickens, Western's baseball coach, said his team's

chances of winning the Western Division are as good as those of any other team.

"I think we're just like all the rest of them," he maintained. "We're all about even and whoever gets off to a real good start has a lot going for them."

Despite Western's record so far, Pickens has not been dissatisfied with his team's play. They've won two out of their last three, for instance, and several of their seven losses have been cruel one-run decisions.

"Most people say we're not doing great because they just look at that 'W' and that 'L', but we're playing very well," he said.

"We've got a fine ball club. We went down South and had a fine trip but just lost a lot of one-run games to some really top-flight teams."

A case in point was a visit to Jacksonville about two weeks ago. Jacksonville was nationally-ranked and had a perfect 13-0 mark when Western came to town, and they were

able to get two more wins by squeezing out consecutive 6-5 verdicts over the Hilltoppers.

So it's been that kind of season. But Pickens and his players hope the conference slate proves to be a horse of a different color.

Western's top hitters so far this season have been first baseman Terry Tedder and shortstop Harold Craft.

Tedder is hitting about .365, according to Pickens, while Craft is hitting around .300.

Western's biggest weakness might well be its lack of pitching depth. Kim Kirby, Terry Hackett and Paul Orbison have been pitching well, but beyond those three there haven't been any outstanding hurlers.

Following Saturday's doubleheader with visiting Austin Peay, Western will be idle until Tuesday's doubleheader with visiting Louisville. A game with Indiana-Purdue, which had originally been scheduled for Monday afternoon, has been cancelled.

Western baseball, track teams take on Murray counterparts

By CLARK HANES
Daily News Sports Editor
Beat Murray!

That's the goal set before Western's baseball and track teams this weekend, but the baseballers figure to have their hands full in Saturday's 1 p.m. doubleheader at Nick Denes Field.

Western's track squad, on the other hand, will be a big favorite to outpoint the host team in a triangular meet at Murray on Saturday—but the Hilltoppers will also have to worry about an unknown contingent from Southern Illinois.

While Western is a perennial power in track and field, Murray boasts the same honor in baseball. The Racers took the Ohio Valley Conference title last year, and are picked to repeat this spring.

"I'll say this about them," said Western coach Jim Pickens. "They're definitely the team to beat in the conference. They have almost everybody back from last year's team, and they have the tradition going for them."

"They're the champions," he added, "until someone dethrones them."

Western's baseballers will be making their debut in OVC play



this weekend, while Murray got its conference started on a lackluster note by splitting a home doubleheader with Middle Tennessee last Saturday.

The Racers had to settle for a split of the twin bill when they ran into a hard-throwing Middle lefthander, George Ploucher. Sporting the best earned run average on the Middle pitching corps, Ploucher showed the Racers why by tossing a 1-0 no-hitter.

Western, meanwhile, was scheduled to open its OVC season with a twin bill against Austin Peay last Saturday, but the games were rained out—as were this week's non-conference games with Indiana-Purdue, Louisville and Kentucky.

In other words, Pickens' team has a chance to make a big splash when it jumps into the OVC race this weekend—but Murray will be trying to give the Toppers a baptism under fire.

"It makes absolutely no

difference to me who we open against," said Pickens, "whether it be Murray, Middle or Austin Peay. You've got to play them all sometime or other."

Western's four front-line pitchers—Terry Hackett, Kim Kirby, Paul Orberson and Jim Cox—will all be available for duty on Saturday.

The Hilltoppers' leading hitter is Terry Tedder. The sophomore from Campbellsville is hitting at a .375 clip and has seven extra-base hits—three doubles, two triples and two home runs.

Meanwhile, Western's track team is solidly favored over its counterparts from Murray, but Southern Illinois has head coach Jerry Bean worried.

"We haven't competed against them in my five years here," he said, "and I really don't know a whole lot about them. I do know that they have four vaulters that have cleared 16 feet, and their strength lies in the field events."

"Actually," he continued, "Murray could help us out if they do well in the field events, and take away some of Southern Illinois' firepower. I was almost amazed at our showing in the field events in our season-opener against Southeast Missouri. I didn't think we were that strong."

In its only home meet of the year last weekend, Western piled up an 84-60 win over the same SEMO team that had belted Murray in an earlier dual meet.

Two of the top individuals Western will be up against this weekend are Phil Robbins of SIU and Cuthbert Jacobs of Murray. Robbins is an All-American triple-jumper, while Jacobs holds the OVC record in the 220-yard dash.

"Jacobs was the conference champ in the 220 in 1974," Bean noted, "but he was injured last season and didn't compete. He's also a national finalist in the 440. He's a truly fine athlete."

Western, too, has been bit by the injury bug. Half-miler Dave Jagers, who missed the SEMO meet, is slated to compete this weekend, but high-jumper Chuck Durrant will probably be held out of competition.

"He could compete," said Bean, referring to Durrant, "but we'd be just sick if he did and further injured himself. I don't think we'll take the chance with him."

PARK CITY
Daily News
BOWLING GREEN
SPORTS

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Murray ruins Toppers' debut in conference

Western's baseball team opened the Ohio Valley Conference portion of its schedule Saturday on a sour note.

Murray handed the host Hilltoppers a double defeat. Murray won the first game of the doubleheader 5-2 and then prevailed in the nightcap by a 4-0 margin.

Western's overall record fell to 3-9 with the two losses. Murray, which won the OVC championship last season and is picked to repeat this year, raised its overall record to 24-5 and its conference slate to 3-1.

Murray had opened the conference portion of its schedule by splitting a doubleheader with Middle

Tennessee last weekend.

Murray led the first game Saturday against Western from start to finish. The Racers picked up a run in the first and then added two more in the fourth when Stan Geesher had a two-run single.

Western picked up a single run in the fifth, but when Murray got two more in the sixth the game was out of reach for the Hilltoppers despite a run in the final inning.

Kim Kirby went all the way for Western on the mound while Mark Wezet started for Murray and picked up some relief help from teammate Terry Brown in the fifth.

In the second game, Murray's

Mike Roberts pitched shutout baseball in going the distance. Paul Orberson started on the mound for Western, but he needed relief help from Terry Hackett when Murray erupted for three runs in the sixth inning.

Murray led off the sixth with an infield hit, but Western seemed to have the situation under control when they recorded two consecutive outs. However, Murray kept the inning alive with a base on balls, whereupon Robin Courtney, Brown and Geisler followed with run-producing singles.

Murray added an insurance run in the seventh inning when Gene Stuber chased in a teammate with a single.

Western's next game is Monday, when the Hilltoppers will try to get back on the winning track with a twinbill against visiting David Lipscomb from Nashville.

Murray	100	202	0-5
Western	000	010	1-2
Wezet, Brown (5) and Stuber.			
Kirby and Patton.			
Murray	000	003	1-4
Western	000	000	0-0
Roberts and Stuber.			
Orberson, Hackett (6) and Moss.			

Top baseballers split with David Lipscomb

Western's baseball team bounced back from a double loss to Murray over the weekend by salvaging a split with highly-touted David Lipscomb here Monday afternoon.

In the first game at Nick Denes Field, the Hilltoppers dropped a 7-4 decision despite a two-run homer by Steve Keck.

In the nightcap, however, Terry Hackett went all the way on the mound for Jim Pickens' team as Western posted a 6-4 victory. Mark Biven homered for the Toppers in the second game.

David Lipscomb, the top-ranked team among the nation's NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) clubs, saw its record drop to 26-4 by losing the nightcap.

Western, meanwhile, upped its season mark to 4-10 going into an important Ohio Valley Conference doubleheader at Middle Tennessee on Wednesday.

After playing two OVC Western Division games in Murfreesboro on Wednesday, the Hilltoppers return to Bowling Green on Saturday to host the same Middle Tennessee squad in another twin bill.

Over Austin Peay

Western teams all win

Three Western spring sports teams had a field day Wednesday in Clarksville, Tenn., at the expense of their counterparts from Austin Peay.

The Hilltoppers' baseball team, after dropping six straight Ohio Valley Conference games, finally got untracked and won both ends of a doubleheader from Austin Peay.

Meanwhile, the men's tennis team at Western posted a 5-2 win over the Governors, and the women's tennis team rolled to an easy 9-0 victory.

The baseballers' double victory was the biggest surprise of the day, for Western went into the twin bill 4-14 on the season and 0-6 in OVC Western Division play. However, the Hilltoppers coasted to a 7-0 win in the opener and held on for a 6-4 win in the nightcap.

The Toppers snapped their

losing streak behind Paul Orbison's five-hit shutout in the first game, while Kim Kirby went all the way on the mound in the nightcap and yielded a total of seven hits.

The baseballers hope to continue their winning ways on Saturday in a doubleheader at Murray.

The men's tennis team won four of five singles matches to assure itself of winning the seven-point match, and then settled for a split of the two doubles matches.

Western's No. 1 singles man, Bulent Altinkaya, was the only Hilltopper to lose in singles play. The junior from Turkey dropped a three-set match to Austin Peay's Gary Boss, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4.

The Toppers' other four singles players—Stig Ljunggren, Svante Malmsten, Hasan Ozdemir and Barrett Lessenberry—all won their

matches in straight sets.

In doubles play, Western's No. 1 team of Ljunggren and Malmsten lost to Boss and Brad Langevad 6-7, 6-4, 6-3. However, the team of Altinkaya and Ozdemir came from behind to top Warren Lock and Ken Wood 6-7, 6-1, 6-2.

Victory came even easier for the women's team, which failed to lose a single set in its match with Austin Peay.

Katy Strozdas, the top-ranked women's collegiate player in the state, set the pace by whipping Mary Covington 6-0, 6-0 in the featured No. 1 singles match.

The women's team was slated to compete in a quadrangular match at Chattanooga this weekend against Middle Tennessee, Vanderbilt and UT-Chattanooga, while the men's team was slated to visit Louisville on Friday and Murray on Saturday.

Topper gridder, baseballer

Atkinson staying busy throughout two seasons

Most college athletes find it hard enough to participate in one intercollegiate sport and keep up with other campus events.

But Western's Jim Atkinson is currently playing both baseball and football while in school.

During football season the sophomore from Auburn, N.Y., is a reserve safetyman for the Hilltoppers' defensive unit. In the spring he joins Coach Jim Picken's baseball team as a third baseman.

During last fall's football season, Atkinson dressed for every game except the first two, including the three playoff games, as Western finished as NCAA Division II National runnerup with an 11-2 record. He could challenge for the starting safety spot this fall.

He's currently batting .224 in baseball and is tied for the team lead in home runs with four.

When Atkinson, a sophomore, graduated from high school, he didn't even plan to come to college.

"I wasn't going to go, but a Western alumnus who lived in our area talked to me and in August I decided to go," he said.

He didn't play baseball the

first year and was held out of competition in football.

"I decided to play baseball this year. I really like to play it better than football and I thought I would work both of them out."

He found it difficult adjusting from sport to sport at first, but now seems to have overcome that obstacle.

"It was really difficult at first, especially this spring, when I started playing baseball again. I worked during Christmas break on my hitting, but when we played our early games in Florida, it was my first game experience in a long time.

"I feel a lot more comfortable now and I've changed my batting stance some. The hitting is starting to come a little easier now."

Although he is tied for the team lead in home runs, Atkinson doesn't consider himself a power hitter.

"If you're making contact the

home runs will come. I would just like to meet the ball every time and the home runs will take care of themselves. Early in the year I wasn't accustomed to the curve ball and I struck out a lot," Atkinson said.

This summer Atkinson plans to play baseball in summer league in Cape Cod, Mass.

"The competition is really stiff. But someday I'd like to take a crack at professional baseball and I'm going to see how I do in that league as a measuring stick."

Atkinson said that he is looking forward to the coming football season.

"I really enjoy playing football here. This summer I'm going to work as hard as I can and try to catch up on the things I missed in spring practice. Coach Feix really wanted me to go through spring practice but I decided to play baseball.

"I think if I work hard this summer I'll be all right, though."

Baseball coach Pickens taking new Western job

Special to The Courier-Journal

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — Jim Pickens, head baseball coach at Western Kentucky University for the past 11 seasons, has relinquished his coaching post to move up to a new position in the University's Office of Student Affairs.

He will become Assistant to the Dean of Student Affairs, a position which will require his fulltime attention and preclude his availability for further coaching duties. He has been Director of University Centers as well as baseball coach.

"This is a fine opportunity for me—one I feel I can't pass up," Pickens said.

"I have been in coaching a long time and I have enjoyed every minute of it, but I look forward to moving into a new area of responsibility."

Western athletic director John Oldham said, "We regret losing Jim as a coach, naturally, but we're happy that he is moving up into an area of greater service to the university. He has done a fine job for us over the years and has been a pleasure to work with."

Pickens' teams at Western compiled a 167-180 record over his 11-year span. His 1969 team won the Ohio Valley Conference Western Division championship.

He coached at Bowling Green High School for six seasons prior to joining the staff at Western. His Bowling Green teams posted a 118-20 record and won the state championship in 1965. His high school career coaching record for 15 seasons at Danville, Elizabethtown and Bowling Green was a sparkling 221-59.

Western selects head coaches

Western took care of three of the vacancies on its coaching staff Saturday by naming new head coaches in baseball, men's track and women's track.

Dr. Barry Shollenberger becomes the new baseball coach succeeding Jim Pickens, who moved into the university's Office of Student Affairs. The new men's track coach is Del Hessel, taking over for Jerry Bean, who moved into private business, and the new women's track coach is Carla M. Coffey, who is replacing Dr. Shirley Laney, who stepped down to concentrate on her duties as women's golf coach and coordinator of women's athletics.

Shollenberger has been head baseball coach at Middle Georgia College for the past year, where he led his team to the Georgia State Junior College conference championship last spring.

In 1974 and 1975, he was assistant baseball coach at the University of Alabama, where he was mainly in charge of the pitching staff. Alabama's pitching staff had a combined earned run average of 2.06 in 1974, ninth best in the country.

Shollenberger has also coached for eight years in high school at Brewster in Tampa, Fla. The 35-year-old native of Pennsylvania has also spent five years in professional baseball. He was drafted by the Cincinnati Reds in 1962 and advanced as high as San Diego in the Class AAA Pacific Coast League before going on the voluntarily retired list in August, 1965, because of chronic tendonitis.

Shollenberger received the B.A. degree from Moravian College in 1965, his M.A. from Western in 1970 and the Ed.D. degree from the University of Alabama in 1975.

Hessel has been head track and cross-country coach at Colorado State for the last six years. His coaching has produced 21 NCAA and USTFF All-Americans during his stint at Colorado State and he has also produced four national champions.

Teams coached by him broke the world record in the 880-yard indoor relay and tied the world mark in the indoor shuttle hurdle relay.

Hessel's CSU cross-country team put together a streak of

two undefeated dual meet seasons, a string that included 17 straight meets without a loss.

Hessel, who is also 35, received both baccalaureate and master's degrees at Colorado State and will be teaching in Western's Department of Physical Education and Recreation.

Coffey is a native of Somerset and graduated from Somerset High School in 1967 and received the B.S. degree in education with majors in health, physical education and recreation from Murray in 1972 and the master of arts degree from the same school in 1975.

The 26-year-old has had considerable coaching experience. She has been a

physical education instructor at Bowling Green High School, where she also served as head coach of the girls' basketball and track teams.

In addition, she coached girls' basketball and track at Iroquois in Louisville from 1972-74, girls' and boys' cross-country at Iroquois from 1973-74 and assistant track and cross-country and basketball coach for Murray from 1974-75.

Coffey has had four years' experience in collegiate basketball and was named most valuable player for all four years at Murray.

With the naming of the three new head coaches, two spots still remain open at Western—the women's basketball coach and the riflery coach.

Western opens baseball season this Saturday

Western will open the 1977 baseball season Saturday at Campbellsville before embarking on a lengthy southern trip that should aid the Hilltoppers in getting ready for a run at the Ohio Valley Conference Western Division title.

The 12-game trip opens March 12 against Tennessee Wesleyan, continues into Georgia and concludes with a game at Jacksonville (Ala.) State on March 20.

The Hilltoppers make their home debut on March 23 with a single game against Evansville's Purple Aces.

Barry Shollenberger will be opening his first season as WKU's head coach after successful stints at Middle Georgia College and as assistant coach at the University of Alabama. He also had extensive professional baseball experience in the Boston Red Sox and Cincinnati Reds organizations before turning to coaching when chronic tendonitis ended his playing career.

Shollenberger has classified 1977 as a "rebuilding year" for the Hilltoppers, but added, "We'll hustle and we'll keep on hustling."

"We don't have a lot of experience back from last season, as far as numbers of players are concerned, but we do have some quality people. If we can find some of that same quality among our newcomers, we could become a darkhorse contender in our division race."

The complete WKU schedule:

Mar. 5—Campbellsville (2)	A
Mar. 12—Tenn. Wesleyan	A
Mar. 12—Shorter	A
Mar. 13—Columbus	A
Mar. 14—Mercer	A
Mar. 15—Mercer	A
Mar. 15—Tennessee Tech	A
Mar. 16—Mercer	A
Mar. 16—Tennessee Tech	A
Mar. 17—Georgia	A
Mar. 18—Mercer	A
Mar. 19—Ga. Southwestern	A
Mar. 20—Jacksonville St.	A
Mar. 22—Louisville	A
Mar. 23—Evansville	H
Mar. 26—Austin Peay (2)	A
Mar. 28—W. Michigan (2)	H
Mar. 29—Louisville (2)	H
Mar. 30—Ky. Wesleyan	A
Apr. 1—Ind. Purdue	H
Apr. 2—Murray (2)	H
Apr. 4—Vanderbilt	H
Apr. 6—Middle Tenn. (2)	H
Apr. 7—Bellarmine (2)	H
Apr. 9—Middle Tenn. (2)	A
Apr. 11—Bellarmine	A
Apr. 12—Ky. Wesleyan	H
Apr. 13—Austin Peay (2)	H
Apr. 14—David Lipscomb	A
Apr. 15—Evansville	A
Apr. 16—Murray (2)	A
Apr. 18—Vanderbilt	A
Apr. 19—Southern Ill. (2)	A
Apr. 22—Centre	A
Apr. 26—Trevecca	H
Apr. 29—Eastern	H

Toppers bow to Louisville

Western took a 4-6 record into today's baseball home opener against Evansville, following a narrow 4-3 loss to Louisville on Tuesday.

The Hilltoppers were slated to entertain Evansville at 3 p.m. today at Nick Denes Field, following 10 straight games on the road.

Western spotted UL a four-win lead in the early going Tuesday, before getting back in the game behind Paul Orberon's strong relief pitching. Orberon came on in the fifth and shut out the Cardinals the rest of the way.

The Toppers broke into the scoring column with a single run in the fifth, and got their other two runs on a homer by Gary Larimore in the top of the eighth.

Terry Tedder, Larry Cave and Frankie Hughes all had doubles for the losers, while the only other homer of the day came from UL freshman Joe Roberts—a former Bowling Green High star.

Western	000	010	020-3	6	2
Louisville	010	300	00x-4	6	1

Top baseballers take on A. Peay

Western's baseball team begins Western Division play in the Ohio Valley Conference this weekend, traveling to Austin Peay on Saturday for a doubleheader starting at 1 p.m.

The Hilltoppers, in their first season under Barry Shollenberger, take a 4-7 record into the twin bill, while Austin Peay stands 10-7 on the season.

Western opened its season with a 20-0 rout of Campbellsville, before losing five of eight games on a week-long swing through Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia. After dropping a 4-3 decision to Louisville on Tuesday, the Toppers lost a 13-10 game to Evansville here Wednesday in their only home outing to date.

Besides Western and Austin Peay, Murray and Middle Tennessee are included in the OVC's Western Division.

Toppers split with A. Peay

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. — If pennants are won during the season by winning at home and splitting on the road, Western's young baseball team got off to a good start here Saturday in Ohio Valley Conference divisional play.

The Hilltoppers opened the Western Division portion of their scheduled here this weekend against Austin Peay, and came away with a split of two games—winning the nightcap 7-4, after dropping the opener in a 5-0 no-hitter.

John Sarver of the Governors had things completely his own way in the first game, shutting out Western on no hits through seven innings.

Losing pitcher Paul Orberson of Western gave up only seven hits during the contest, pitching well enough to win. But he was no match for the Austin Peay hurler, one of the premier pitchers in the Ohio Valley Conference.

The Governors had trouble getting to Orberson in the early innings, too, and led by only 1-0 going into the fourth. However, Orberson gave up another run in the fourth, two more in the fifth and another in the sixth.

As it turned out, the Hilltoppers came within one out of dropping both games. Austin Peay took a 4-3 lead into the final inning of the second game, and Western needed a four-run rally in the top of the seventh to pull out the victory.

A one-out walk started the big rally, but the Toppers had to have an infield error with two outs keep the inning alive. Two more walks followed, forcing in the tying run, and a two-run single by Terry Tedder staked Western to a 6-4 lead.

Gary Larimore singled moments later to drive in yet another run, and the inning ended only when Tedder was thrown out at the plate on Larimore's hit.

The Hilltoppers finished with eight hits in the second game, while freshman hurler Tim Kellum scattered nine Austin Peay hits to pick up the win.

Kellum spotted the Governors a 1-0 lead in the first inning, but Western came back to tie the game in the second on a solo homer by Jim Atkinson. A triple by Frankie Hughes scored another run in the fifth and an RBI single by Orberson plated another in the sixth, but the Hilltoppers still needed their big rally in the last inning to salvage the split.

The split left Austin Peay at 11-8 on the season, while Western will take a 5-8 mark into this week's busy schedule.

Barry Shollenberger's troops host Western Michigan in a 1 p.m. doubleheader on Monday, and entertain Louisville for two games the same time Tuesday.

Western	000	000	0-0	0	3
Austin Peay	010	121	x-5	7	0

Orberson and Moss, Kendall (6).
Sarver and Reece.

Western	010	011	4-7	8	3
Austin Peay	102	100	0-4	9	1

Kellum and Kendall, Moss (6).
Downy, Richardson (6), Kaute (7),
Heneboll (7) and McGill.

Tops win 3-2

Western took a 6-8 record into today's doubleheader with Louisville at Nick Denes Field, following a 3-2 decision over Western Michigan here Monday.

Terry Tedder led the Hilltoppers with three hits and all three runs batted in. Gary Larimore also had three hits for the winners, while Paul Orberson chipped in with two hits.

Western drops two to UL

By CLARK HANES

Daily News Sports Editor

You never hear the fans yelling "Dee-fense" at a baseball game, but there are a lot of times when a team will win or lose on the strength of its fielding.

Such was the case Tuesday at Nick Denes Field, where Louisville took both ends of a doubleheader from Western by scores of 4-3 and 5-4.

In the first game, the visiting Cardinals pushed across an unearned run in the top of the seventh for the difference in the game. In the nightcap, UL scored three more unearned runs with the help of six Western errors.

"Defense was definitely our problem today," said coach Barry Shollenberger, the first-year Western coach. "You can't give a good team like Louisville four outs in an inning, or they'll beat you."

It was the Hilltoppers' third straight one-point loss to UL this spring. Last week in Louisville, Western bowed by a 4-3 score.

The double win upped Louisville's mark to 11-12 on the season, while Western took a 6-10 record into today's doubleheader at Kentucky Wesleyan.

"We had plenty of chances to win both games," Shollenberger noted. "Sometimes they fall, and sometimes they don't."

"We hit the ball well," he added, "but not at the right time. We had runners all over the bases, but we couldn't make things happen. Maybe we're just trying to hard..."

In the first game, Louisville broke into the scoring column first with a single run in the second. A single by Duke Shumate started it, followed by an infield error, a passed ball and a single by Duke Schneider.

More damage could have been done in the inning, but a strong throw from center fielder Bob Bristow nailed UL's Nick Gagel at the plate after Shumate had scored seconds earlier on Schneider's single.

One inning later, Western jumped on UL pitcher Mike Shields for all three of its runs. Bristow led things off with a single, took second on a fielder's choice, moved to third on a single by Wally Moss and scored on another fielder's choice.

A two-out single by Paul

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Orberson put runners at first and second, and both came around to score on Terry Tedder's double to right field.

The big inning ended when cleanup hitter Gary Larimore struck out for the second inning in a row. Larimore went on to strike out a third time later in the opening game, and finished the day hitless in seven trips to the plate.

UL bounced back to tie the game in the top of the fifth, scoring twice on three hits and two walks off losing pitcher Rick Baker.

Joe Roberts, a freshman from Bowling Green High, started the Cardinals' rally with a leadoff single, and two walks loaded the bases with one out. Back-to-back singles by Mark Jurena and Tony Conflenti

brought the runs home.

UL got the deciding run in the last inning when Brett Goff walked, moved to second on a sacrifice, and came all the way around on Jim Atkinson's second error of the day at third base.

Defense continued to be Western's downfall in the second game, as Louisville scored all five of its runs in the first three innings and held on for the sweep.

The visitors again jumped out in front, but this time in the very first inning. A leadoff walk, an error two outs later and a long double by Shumate staked UL pitcher Monty Holland—another BGH product—to a 1-0 lead.

The visitors picked up two more runs in the second on a

two-out walk, a single by Goff and a triple by Jurena, and upped their lead to 5-0 one inning later on two hits and two Western errors.

Cleanup man Chip Steier led it off in the third with a single, and Gagel hit safely one out later. Both runners moved up on a passed ball, and scored on a pair of infield errors.

One of the fielding miscues was charged to shortstop Mike Murray, who wound up with four for the game.

Western started getting to Holland in the bottom of the third, scoring twice on singles by Orberson and Tedder, an outfield error and a fielder's choice. And when the Hilltoppers scored twice more in the fourth by bunching four singles together, UL called on reliever Mike McCoy.

McCoy shut the door on the Toppers' rally in the last three innings, pitching out of small jams in each frame.

Louisville	010	020	1-4	7	1
Western	003	000	0-3	6	2

Shields and Shumate.
Baker and Moss.

Louisville	122	000	0-5	6	1
Western	002	200	0-4	11	6

Holland, McCoy (4) and Shumate.
Biven and Kendall, Moss (5).

NASHVILLE BANNER
Thursday, April 7, 1977

MTSU Takes Pair From Western

Bowling Green, Ky. — Middle Tennessee State took an Ohio Valley Conference doubleheader from Western Kentucky Wednesday, 5-1 on a three-hitter by Bob Hardin and 5-2 on Mike Moore's two-hitter. The Raiders were to Sienna Heights in a doubleheader today in Murfreesboro.

MTSU	230 000 0 — 5 6 0
WKU	000 001 0 — 1 3 0
Bob Hardin and Rich Cheshire. Rick Baker and Wally Moss.	

Second Game	
MTSU	030 001 0 — 5 7 0
WKU	100 000 0 — 2 2 3
Mike Moore and Cheshire. Rim Kelum, Mark Biuen (5) and David Kendall.	

Raiders Beat WKU Twice

MURFREESBORO — Burt Fuqua and John Weathers yesterday teamed up to power Middle Tennessee State University to its seventh and eighth consecutive wins yesterday, beating Western Kentucky 3-0 and 5-1.

Fuqua drove in two of Middle's three runs in the first game with a double while Weathers went 2-for-2 in the nightcap and drove in all five MTSU runs with homers runs in the 4th and 6th innings.

Mike Moore picked up the win in the first game while Bob Hardin was the winner in the second contest. Both pitchers gave up only four hits and had six strikeouts apiece.

MTSU's next plays Vanderbilt in a special benefit game, tomorrow night at 8 p.m.

Western	000 000 0 — 0 4 1
Middle Tennessee	030 000 x — 3 4 0
Orberson and Robertson; Moore and	
Cheshire. WP — Moore. LP — Orberson.	

Second Game	
Western Kentucky	000 010 0 — 1 4 0
Middle Tennessee	000 302 x — 5 5 0
McKinley and Kendall; Hardin and	
Cheshire. WP — Hardin. LP — McKinley. HR — Weathers (2) MTSU.	

Western splits with Wesleyan

Western tuned up for today's doubleheader against Austin Peay by splitting a twin bill with Kentucky Wesleyan here Tuesday, winning the opener 9-6 but dropping the nightcap 2-0.

Wesleyan banged out 10 hits off Terry Hackett and Mike Riggs in the opener, but Western made the most of its nine hits. Terry Tedder and Jim Atkinson led the way with two hits apiece.

In the second game, Western pitcher Tony Martines lost

despite tossing a one-hitter. For Wesleyan, Delbert Albertson went the distance and shut out the Hilltoppers on four hits.

Nobody got on the scoreboard until the sixth inning, when a two-out walk got Martines in trouble. Mike Powers followed with an RBI triple, and then scored the game's only other run on a passed ball.

Western took a 15-16 mark into today's games at Nick Denes Field.

Top baseballers split with AP; netters triumph

By CLARK HANES

Daily News Sports Editor

It was "Over-the-Hump Day" at Western, with the Hilltoppers' tennis and baseball teams jointly participating in the festivities.

But when the smoke had cleared, only Western's tennis team had pushed its record to .500 with a convincing 7-2 win over visiting Austin Peay. The baseballers had the same goal in mind going into Wednesday's doubleheader here, but Peay salvaged a split of the twin bill to leave the Toppers at 16-17 on the season.

Western took the opener 5-2 behind the five-hit pitching of Jeff McKinley and Mike Riggs. McKinley shut out the Governors through the first six innings, but needed relief help from Riggs in the seventh when AP got its only runs.

By that time, though, Western had scored all the runs it needed. The Toppers finished with 10 hits off losing pitcher John Sarver, who earlier had tossed a no-hitter against Barry Shollenberger's club in Clarksville.

"That's the way it goes," said Shollenberger. "You gotta block out the past, and that's what I told my kids. Just because a guy throws a no-hitter against us one time doesn't mean he's going to do it again."

Leading Western's 10-hit assault on Sarver were Frankie Hughes, Terry Tedder and Gary Larimore—all with two hits apiece. One of Larimore's hits was a homer, while Tedder had a triple.

Western scored twice in the first on singles by Paul Orberson and Tedder, and a two-out double by Jim Atkinson.

The Hilltoppers picked up additional runs in the third on Larimore's homer, in the fifth on two walks and two errors, and in the sixth on Tedder's triple and a single by Larimore.

In the second game, though, former Auburn star Ricky Richardson cooled off the Toppers' bats with a four-hitter as Austin Peay bounced back to win 3-1.

Western took a 1-0 lead in the second inning on three straight

singles by Atkinson, Mike Green and Steve Robertson. But Richardson pitched shutout ball the rest of the way, and the Toppers' only other hit was a single by Mike Murray in the fifth.

Austin Peay scored twice in the fourth on three hits, a walk and an error, and picked up an insurance run in the fifth on a double by Robbie Fant and a triple by Doug Eargle.

Western threatened in the last inning, but Richardson pitched out of the jam. Two straight errors by Fant at second base and a walk loaded the bases with one out, bringing up two of the Toppers' best hitters in Hughes and Orberson.

However, Hughes—who had been robbed of a homer earlier in the game—was retired on a line driver right at the short-stop, and Orberson grounded out to first to end the game.

"Hughes' hit would've been in the gap if it had gotten through the infield," noted Shollenberger. "He tore it up. It just didn't go to the right place."

The split left Western with a 2-7 record in Ohio Valley Conference divisional play, while Austin Peay now stands 6-3 in the Western Division and 19-14 overall.

While the baseballers came up short in their bid to reach the .500 mark, Western's tennis team posted its sixth win in a row to raise its season log to 7-7.

The only points Western lost came in the No. 4 and No. 6 singles matches. Hasan Ozdemir dropped a three-set match to Pablo Camus (6-4, 2-6, 7-5) in the No. 4 match, and Mark Nichols bowed to Ken Wood (6-3, 6-4) in No. 6.

In the No. 1 singles match, Svante Malmsten outlasted defending OVC champ Gary Boss 6-4, 1-6, 6-3. Stig Ljunggren was at No. 3 and Barrett Lessenberry won in three sets at No. 5.

Having already clinched the match by the end of singles play, the Hilltoppers put the icing on the cake by winning all three doubles matches without dropping a set.

Austin Peay	000	000	2-2	5	21
Western	201	011	x-5	10	1
Sarver, Heinbold (6) and Reece, McKinley, Riggs (7) and Green, Kendall (6)					
Austin Peay	000	210	0-3	7	2
Western	010	000	x-1	4	2
Richardson and Reece, Biven and Kendall.					

Murray sweeps pair from Tops

MURRAY, Ky. — Western's baseball team saw its losing streak stretch to five games here Saturday, where the Hill-toppers dropped a doubleheader to homesiding Murray.

The Racers won the opener 10-2 behind the five-hit pitching of Andy Rice, and pounded out 13 hits in the second game to chalk up a 12-6 victory.

The twin losses dropped Western to 16-21 on the season, and 2-9 in Ohio Valley Conference divisional play.

Western got two hits from Jim Atkinson in the first game, but it was an uphill battle after Murray's Greg Tooley belted a three-run homer in the opening inning.

In the second game, Mike Brown led the Racers' assault on five Western pitching by banging out four hits in five trips to the plate. Teammate Al Luigs chipped in with two hits and four runs batted in.

Frankie Hughes and Terry Tedder led Western in the night-cap with two hits apiece. One of Tedder's hits was a homer, and Atkinson also smacked a roundtripper in the second game.

Western gets back in action in Nashville on Monday for a single game against Vanderbilt.

Western	000	002	0-2	5	2
Murray	301	114	x-10	9	1

Orberson, Biven (6) and Kendall, Green (5).

Rice and Teel.					
Western	100	112	1-6	7	3
Murray	130	053	x-12	13	0

Marlines, McKinley (2), Baker (5), Ryder (5), Biven (6) and Green, Kendall (6).

Wezel, Brown (7) and Poe.

McKinley stars in Western win

Jeff McKinley stopped visiting Trevecca on five hits Tuesday at Nick Denes Field as Western won an 8-1 non-conference decision.

The win was the 18th of the spring for the Hilltoppers, tying a school record. Barry Shollenberger's team takes an 18-22 overall mark into its final three outings of the season—at Centre on Thursday, home against Eastern (2) on Friday and home against Murray on Saturday.

McKinley, one of the nation's collegiate strikeout leaders on a per-inning basis, fanned 10 batters Tuesday to raise his total to 58 in 46 1-3 innings.

The sophomore from Camp-

bellsville was ranked second in the NCAA in strikeouts per inning going into the game, and the win evened his record for the spring to 4-4.

McKinley got plenty of support from Mike Murray, who belted three hits in four trips to the plate for the Hilltoppers. Murray finished with a double, a homer and four runs batted in.

Bob Bristow chipped in with two hits for the winners, and Gary Larimore had the Toppers' only other homer of the afternoon.

Trevecca	000	010	000	-1	5	2
Western	030	102	20x	-8	8	1

Whitley, Sanderson (5), Mitchell (7) and Thomas.
McKinley and Moss.

Toppers close out at home

Western's baseball team closes out its season with a single game here against Murray on Saturday, following a scheduled home doubleheader against Eastern today.

The Hilltoppers were slated to play two games at Centre on Thursday, but the twin bill was rained out. As a result, Western took an 18-22 record into today's games with Eastern...weather permitting.

Going into the final weekend of the season, junior Terry Tedder continues to lead the team with a .364 batting average.

The pitching staff is headed

by Mike Riggs, Terry Hackett and Jeff McKinley.

The men's tennis team was slated to host Morehead today in its final tuneup for next week's Ohio Valley Conference tournament here, and the men's golf team was scheduled to compete in the Tennessee Tech Intercollegiate Tournament this weekend at Cookeville.

The men's track team will participate in a quadrangular meet at Tuscaloosa, Ala., this weekend, while the women's track team goes to Richmond to close out its season in the Becky Boone Relays.

MONDAY, MAY 2, 1977

Toppers sweep Eastern, but bow to Murray

Western's baseball team swept a doubleheader from visiting Eastern on Friday afternoon, but then dropped a 13-12 decision to Murray here over the weekend to end the season on a losing note.

The season-ending loss to Murray dropped the Hilltoppers to a final 20-23 record on the year, along with a 2-10 mark against Western Division opponents in the Ohio Valley Conference.

In the games with Eastern on Friday, the Hilltoppers won a narrow 4-3 contest in the opener before coasting to a 9-3 victory in the nightcap.

Winning pitcher Paul Orberson spotted the Colonels three runs in the first inning of the opener, but shut them out the rest of the way before needing relief help from Mark Biven in the seventh.

Biven entered the game with two on base and only one out in the seventh, and walked the first batter he faced to load the bases. However, he retired the next two hitters to end the game.

Orberson helped his own cause with three hits, while Terry Tedder chipped in with a pair.

In the second game on Friday, Eastern again took the lead by scoring three times in the top of the third. But Western bounced right back with an eight-run explosion in the

bottom of the same inning, and picked up an additional run in the fifth to win going away.

Rick Baker, Tony Martines and George Brooks all saw duty on the mound in the nightcap, with Martines getting the win.

Frankie Hughes paced the Hilltoppers' 11-hit attack with two hits and three runs batted in, while Mike Murray had two hits and two RBI's. Tedder, Orberson and Jim Atkinson all added two hits apiece.

In the Hilltoppers' season finale on Saturday, Murray erupted for seven runs in the opening inning and went on to lead by as much as 13-2 before Western came back strong in the late innings.

Finding themselves down by 11 runs, Barry Shollenberger's troops started pecking away at their deficit on Mike Green's two-run homer in the bottom of the fifth.

Green, the designated hitter, followed with a three-run blast in the next inning to cap a five-run uprising, and it was a 13-10 game. Western scored two more times in the seventh and once in the eighth on Murray's solo homer, but came up one run short.

Hughes finished with three hits to lead the Hilltoppers' 12-hit assault, while Murray, Atkinson and Green all had two hits apiece.

Murray banged out a total of 19 hits off five Western hurlers, with Terry Brown, Tom Fehn and John Simanowski all stroking three hits each.

Eastern	300	000	0-3	11	0
Western	102	100	x-4	8	2

Lisle and Ringley.

Orberson, Biven (7) and Kendall.					
Eastern	003	000	0-3	7	2
Western	008	010	x-9	11	2

McNulty, Weaver (3) and Ringley.					
Baker, Martines (3), Brooks (6) and Moss.					
Murray	720	220	000-13	19	3
Western	101	025	210-12	12	3

Rice, Allegretti (6), Riggs (7) and Teel.

Hackett, Riggs (1), Kellum (5), McKinley (8), Biven (9) and Kendall, Moss (5).

Three Topper baseballers get All-OVC honors

Three Western players have been selected to berths on this year's All-Ohio Valley Conference baseball team in the Western Division.

Terry Tedder and Frankie Hughes both made the honor team as infielders, while Paul Orberson got the designated hitter berth.

Other infielders named to the Western Division squad were Ben Langster of Middle Tennessee, Robbie Fant and Tom Schoettle of Austin Peay, and Robin Courtney of Murray. The outfielders were Doug Eargle, Greg Tooley and John Siemonski of Murray, and Danny Moore of Middle.

The top two pitchers were Mike Moore of Middle and Andy Rice of Murray, while Rick Cheshire of Middle got the catcher's spot.

In the OVC's Eastern Division, league champion Morehead landed five players— infielders Jim Brockman and Jeff Stamper, outfielder Harry Hall, catcher Kirk Hudson and designated hitter Rick Gunterman.

Morehead's Steve Hamilton was named the OVC coach of the year, while Middle's Mike Moore was named the league's most valuable player.

Toppers sign baseball star

Mike Williams of Shelby County has signed a baseball national letter-of-intent with Western, according to Hilltopper coach Barry Shollenberger.

Williams was the top pitcher for his high school team this spring, compiling an 8-2 record. He also played shortstop when he wasn't on the mound, and finished with a healthy .509 batting average.

The promising righthander was coached at Shelby County by Western grad Hubert Pollett, and was recruited by all the other state colleges—including Kentucky and Louisville.

AP lands grid standout

Tops sign baseballers

Western baseball coach Barry Schollenberger has announced the signing of two Louisville junior college baseball standouts to Ohio Valley Conference grants with the Hilltoppers.

Pitcher-first baseman Larry Glasscock and catcher Ronnie Hasting are the latest standouts to sign with Western. Both played at Martin Junior College, Pulaski, Tenn., for the past two seasons.

Glasscock, a product of Southern High School, had a 13-3 record at Martin over two seasons and posted an earned run average of 2.10. He also hit .386 with five home runs this past spring and was a two-time All-State Junior College selection.

Hasting graduated from Durrett High School and hit .296 last spring with three homers. He was named to the All-Western Division team in the rugged Tennessee junior college league.

Schollenberger, in releasing the signings, said, "These are solid players and we expect them to start contributing to our program

immediately. They have good baseball backgrounds in both high school and junior college."

Meanwhile, Cosmo Cochran, selected as the most outstanding high school offensive back in Memphis last season, has signed in football, grant-in-aid with Austin Peay.

Cochran, a hard-rumping 190-pound tailback, gained 1,150 yards in 1976 in helping Wooddale High in Memphis to an impressive 8-2 record and a spot in the annual Civitan Bowl.

Selected to numerous post-season "all" teams,

Cochran was tabbed by The Commercial Appeal in Memphis as the "Back of the Year" in Shelby County, and his yardage total ranked him as one of the top five ball carriers in the west Tennessee area.

A three-year regular in the backfield for coach A.J. Mangum, Cochran also lettered in basketball and track. He has been clocked at :10.0 over 100 yards.

Cochran attracted the attention of several major college football teams this past season, including Memphis State and Notre Dame.

Play ball!

Top baseballers' real season opens Saturday

By JIM GROVE

Daily News Sports Writer

Although Western's baseball season officially got under way with a swing through Florida last week, it hasn't even started as far as coach Barry Shollenberger is concerned.

"The conference to us is everything," said the two-year coach, whose team finished 20-23-1 overall but only 2-10 in the Western Division of the Ohio Valley Conference last year. "We can go undefeated in everything else and it won't mean anything."

Shollenberger will get his first chance to see how the Toppers are going to measure up against OVC competition when Austin Peay invades for a doubleheader Sunday.

"We found out last year that we're in the toughest of the two conferences," said Shollenberger, who plays four games each with Middle Tennessee, Austin Peay and Murray. The Western winner then meets the Eastern champ for the conference title.

"There are no easy games," he said. "I've been wrong before but I believe we'll do better than a 2-10 record in the conference this year. We lost 10 games last year but we gained some respect."

The Toppers, hurt by the harsh winter, are now 2-4 after losing several 3-2 games on the Florida trip. One of those was to the University of Miami, which was 40-3 last year.

Shollenberger is hopeful of things to come, though, after watching his team set 23 new team and individual records last year, including most wins in a season (20).

"You're never happy when you don't win more than you lose," said Shollenberger, who came to Western after coaching at Middle Georgia College.

"But we got a lot of positive things out of last year... like getting all those records."

Shollenberger has his five top hitters from last year back, led by first baseman Terry Tedder, an All-American candidate, who hit

.359 last season to lead the Toppers. Tedder, a two-year All-OVC pick, has a .331 career batting average.

"The way I see it we've got the best of the players we had last year and we've brought in some quality people," Shollenberger said.

In fact, the Topper infield returns virtually intact. Shortstop Mike Murray, who hit .299 last year and led Western with 15 stolen bases, will be challenged at that position by Tommy Sapp, a transfer from Middle Georgia, who hit .350 there last year.

Frank Hughes, Western's All-OVC second baseman who hit .311 there last year, has moved into the outfield and another Middle Georgia transfer, Freddie Carlisle, will probably take his place. Carlisle hit .355 last year.

But none of the positions are settled according to Shollenberger, and that is exemplified at third base. There are three contenders for that spot, all newcomers.

Those are Ron Rocco, a transfer from Pittsburgh Pa., junior college transfer

Charlie Payne and freshman Rene Zarate. They will take the place of Jim Atkinson, who has also moved to the outfield.

"Defense was one our our glaring weaknesses last year," said Shollenberger, whose team committed 83 errors, "and I have tried to shore it up by making some personnel changes."

With Hughes going to leftfield and Atkinson seeing action at right, centerfield is almost the only open spot in the outfield. But Leonard Phillips, another Middle Georgia transfer who hit .324 there last year, is expected to challenge Atkinson.

"Our outfield will be much stronger defensively this year and we will have more overall speed," Shollenberger said.

Centerfield will be the domain of junior college transfer Mike Atwell, an All State selection at Wasbas Junior College in Illinois. Atwell batted almost .40 there last year.

Although Shollenberger has eight pitchers returning, his staff will have to develop what he terms a "stopper."

"We are very deep in pitching," he said, "and all of them are capable of being front-line pitchers. The real question is whether we will have two who will take charge and become our stoppers when we get into conference play."

Leading the list is Mark Biven, 2-2 last season with 2.41 Earned Run Average. He will be joined by a pair of lefthanders, Paul Orberso

Continued From Page 5
(1-4, 2.70) and Jeff McKinley (4-4, 4.57). Oberson was named All-OVC thanks to a .323 batting average.

Right-handers Tony Martinez, Mike Riggs, Rick Baker, Terry Hackett and Tim Kellum also return. All five had ERAs under 2.79 during the fall practice session.

For short relief, Shollenberger will give the nod to a pair of Middle Georgia transfers, right-handers Rick Gittens and Lloyd Williford. Gittens had a 1.11 ERA in 32 innings during the fall.

Shollenberger feels he has two capable catchers in the form of David Kendall, a senior from Bowling Green, and Mike Green, a junior from Gainesville, Ga. Both are excellent receivers, with Green better offensively and Kendall a better defensive catcher.

Although Shollenberger is keying on the conference, Western will be tested by several national powers. Included in that list is Southern Illinois, who finished third in the nation

scomb, the NAIA national champion last year.

The schedule:

Mar. 21—Louisville (2)	H
Mar. 23—E. Illinois (2)	H
Mar. 24—E. Illinois	H
Mar. 25—Austin Peay (2)	H
Mar. 28—Louisville	A
Mar. 30—Evansville	H
Apr. 1—Murray (2)	H
Apr. 4—Ky. Wesleyan	H
Apr. 5—MTSU (2)	A
Apr. 6—Ind.-Purdue	H
Apr. 7—C'ville College	H
Apr. 8—MTSU (2)	H
Apr. 10—Florida	H
Apr. 11—Tenn. State	H
Apr. 12—Austin Peay (2)	H
Apr. 13—Lipscomb	A
Apr. 15—Murray (2)	A
Apr. 16—Bellarmine	A
Apr. 18—Tenn. State	A
Apr. 21—Eastern	A
Apr. 22—Morehead	A
Apr. 23—Ky. State	A
Apr. 24—Kentucky	A
Apr. 26—Lipscomb	A
Apr. 27—S. Illinois	H
Apr. 28—Trevcca	A
Apr. 29—Ky. Wesleyan	A

Toppers split with Louisville

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Western's baseball team rebounded from a three-hitter by Louisville pitcher Mike Shields in the first game here Tuesday to split a doubleheader with the Cardinals.

Shields held Western to two runs on just three hits in the first game, which Louisville won easily 10-2. But a 12-run second inning in the second contest gave Western a 15-10 victory, boosting the 'Tops' record to 7-8. Louisville, meanwhile, fell to 10-4.

Thanks to the pitching of Shields, Western fell behind 5-0 in the first game after Louisville got a four-run second inning. The Tops scored their two runs in the top of the fourth, but watched as Louisville scored three of its own in the bottom of the fourth to make it 8-2. Western was held scoreless from that point.

Western pitcher Paul Orberon got the loss, with sophomore Ricky Baker coming in for relief in the fifth inning. Louisville got a home run from catcher Duke Shumate.

The second game was highlighted by a grand slam by Western shortstop Mike Murray in the second inning outburst, giving Western a 12-0 lead after two.

But Louisville battled back with six runs in the fourth inning in the slugfest to make it 12-6, only to watch as the Toppers, who got 13 hits, added one run in the fifth and two in the sixth. Louisville countered with a four-run seventh inning.

Shumate hit another homer for Louisville, but Western leftfielder Frank Hughes countered with two doubles. Mark Bivens, who relieved starter Jeff McKinley in the third inning, got the win.

Western hosts Evansville here tomorrow at 3 p.m. in a single game.

Toppers win, host Murray

Western's baseball team will take an 8-8 record into Saturday's big doubleheader with Murray, thanks to a 5-0 shutout of visiting Evansville here Thursday in a single nine-inning game.

Rick Baker, Mark Biven and Rick Gittens teamed to hurl the shutout for Barry Shollenberger's team, with each pitcher going three innings.

Terry Tedder and David Kendall stroked two hits apiece to pace the Hilltoppers at the plate, although the big hit of the game was a three-run homer by Jim Atkinson in the bottom of the third inning.

Western scored all its runs in the third on a walk, a single by Tedder, an error, a sacrifice fly by Leonard Phillips, another walk and Atkinson's blast.

The Hilltoppers were slated to entertain Murray in a crucial OVC Western Division twin bill at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Evansville	000	000	000	—0	4	2
Western	005	000	00x	—5	8	2

Berg, Kurt (3) and Jones.
Baker, Biven (4), Gittens (7) and Kendall.

Lipscomb tips Toppers 9-8

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Western's baseball team, after splitting a doubleheader at Austin Peay on Wednesday, traveled south of the border again Thursday and came out on the short end of a 9-8 score here against highly-touted David Lipscomb.

The Hilltoppers, leading the Western Division of the Ohio Valley Conference with a 7-1 record, were slated to get back into divisional play Saturday in a doubleheader at Murray.

Western held a 7-2 lead over Lipscomb's defending NAIA national champions at one point during Thursday's game, but the Nashvillians rallied with three runs in the fourth and three more in the seventh to take an 8-7 lead.

Western tied the game in the top of the ninth on a walk to Jim Atkinson, a stolen base and a pinch-single by freshman Rene Zarate, but Lipscomb bounced back for the winning run in the bottom of the same inning.

A couple of walks got ace reliever Rick Gittens in hot water, and a wild pitch moved the baserunners to second and third with only one out. The game ended when an attempted pickoff throw to third got past third baseman Ron Rocco.

Western's ninth-inning rally might have lasted a lot longer, but for a controversial ruling by the umpires. A walk to Frankie Hughes started the inning, but he was later called out on a batter's interference ruling against Atkinson.

Leonard Phillips had two of the Hilltoppers' seven hits, but Hughes provided the big blow with a three-run homer in the third inning. Lou Kendall also homered for the losers, while Atkinson—sporting the hottest bat in the OVC—drew three walks.

Western	023	200	001—8	7	3
Lipscomb	020	300	301—9	11	2

Denton, Williams (4), Gittens (9) and Kendall.
Meyers, Koenig (3), Lanahan (4), Pardue (9) and Liddle.

Toppers win division title

Western's baseball team clinched the Western Division of the Ohio Valley Conference for the first time since 1969 with a split of a doubleheader at Murray Saturday.

Western lost the first game 6-2, but two home runs in the second game by Frankie Hughes helped Western to a 7-4 win.

The win puts Western in a playoff with the Eastern Division champ, and gives the Toppers a chance of winning their first OVC crown in baseball since 1953.

In addition, two school records were set. Jim Atkinson hit his pinth home run of the season in the first game to set a record and the win in the second game boosted Western's record to 21-11, giving the team the most wins ever in a season.

Western struck first in the opener, but Murray got three runs in the third and added three later to insure the win. Paul Orberon, now 5-2, got the loss while going the

distance for Western.

It was the opposite in the second contest, as Murray jumped on top 4-0 before Hughes hit a three-run homer in the fourth to make it 4-3. Hughes added a two-run homer in the seventh, while Mike Murray and Rene Zarate had RBI doubles.

Atkinson is leading the OVC with a .472 batting average.

Western's women's golf team finished third in the seven team Cincinnati Invitational over the weekend, ending with a two-day total of 659.

Michigan State won the meet with 620, while Kentucky was next in line with 626. Western easily outdistanced Bowling Green State, which finished fourth.

Lea Ann Toftness led the way for Western with rounds of 79 and 81 to take seventh place in the medalist race. UK's Myra Norsworthy won those honors, setting a course record 69 the first day and hitting a 73 on her second round.

Melissa Lawson, from Bowling Green, came in with 80-86 for Western while Cindy Peshka had rounds of 81-85. Beth Taylor rounded out Western's scoring with rounds of 80 and 87.

Western had a 320 after the first day, their best one-day total ever.

Western Meets

ETSU For Title

Bowling Green, Ky. — Western Kentucky (23-17) will meet East Tennessee (25-16) in a best-of-three series for the Ohio Valley Conference baseball title this weekend.

The clubs will play two nine-inning games Friday at the Hilltoppers' Nick Denes Field starting at noon. The third game, if necessary, will be Saturday at 1.

Western won the OVC's Western Division with an 8-3 record. East Tennessee dominated the Eastern Division with a 9-3 record.

The conference champion qualifies for an NCAA regional tournament, the winner of which goes to the College World Series in Omaha, June 2-9.

Western, coached by Barry Shollenberger, has five hitters above .320 headed by senior outfielder Frank Hughes. He's hitting .406 and has nine home runs and a school record 38 RBI.

Junior outfielder Jim Atkinson has a .400 average, nine homers and 33 RBI. Senior first baseman Terry Tedder is batting .328, third baseman Ron Rocco .325 and shortstop Mike Murray .321.

Hilltopper pitchers are led by senior left-hander Paul Orberson with a 6-4 record and a 2.45 ERA. Junior righthander Mark Bivan is 4-2 and has an ERA of 3.18. Top reliever Rick Gittens, junior righthander, is 2-3 with a 2.85 ERA.

East Tennessee hitters are led by outfielder Rick Bowers (.375), shortstop Randy Jacobson (.356), second baseman Robbie Ivey (.350) and designated hitter Zane Goodrich (.325).

Sophomore lefthander Attlee Hammaker is the pitching ace with a 3-3 record and 1.46 ERA. He threw a no-hitter against David Lipscomb. Kerry Burchett, senior righthander, is 8-2 (2.32 ERA). Freshman righthander Jeff Andrews is 7-2 (2.83).

East Tennessee is playing its first season under Coach Charley Lodes.

Western, East Tenn. vie for title; Sires Stakes attracts top 2 pacers

From Special Dispatches

The Ohio Valley Conference baseball championship playoffs this weekend between Western Kentucky and East Tennessee could be a classic match-up.

Western appears to have an edge in offense and East Tennessee boasts a narrow advantage in pitching for the best-of-three title series that starts on the Hilltoppers' Nick Denes Field at noon (CDT) Friday.

The two clubs will play two, nine-inning games Friday, with the rubber game, if necessary, set for 1 p.m. (CDT) Saturday.

Western wrapped up the OVC's Western Division title with an 8-3-1 mark. East Tennessee grabbed the Eastern Division crown with a 9-3 record. The winner of the OVC playoffs qualifies for the NCAA Regional Tournament, which in turn leads to the College World Series in Omaha, June 2-9.

around Kentucky

Western's batting power rests mainly on the shoulders of five hitters batting above .320. Senior outfielder Frank Hughes sets the pace with a .406 average, including nine homers and a school record 38 RBIs.

East Tennessee's pitching staff is led by sophomore left-hander Atlee Hamaker. He has a 1.46 ERA, including 37 strikeouts against 11 walks and a 3-3 record.

Western's top pitcher is senior left-hander Paul Orberson, who has six wins against four losses, 51 strikeouts, 22 walks and a 2.45 earned run average.

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THE RED MILE — Little Majority and Pleasure Ahead, impressive in their Red Mile debuts last weekend, headline Friday's \$20,000 Sires Stakes pace for 3-

year-old fillies at the Lexington harness track.

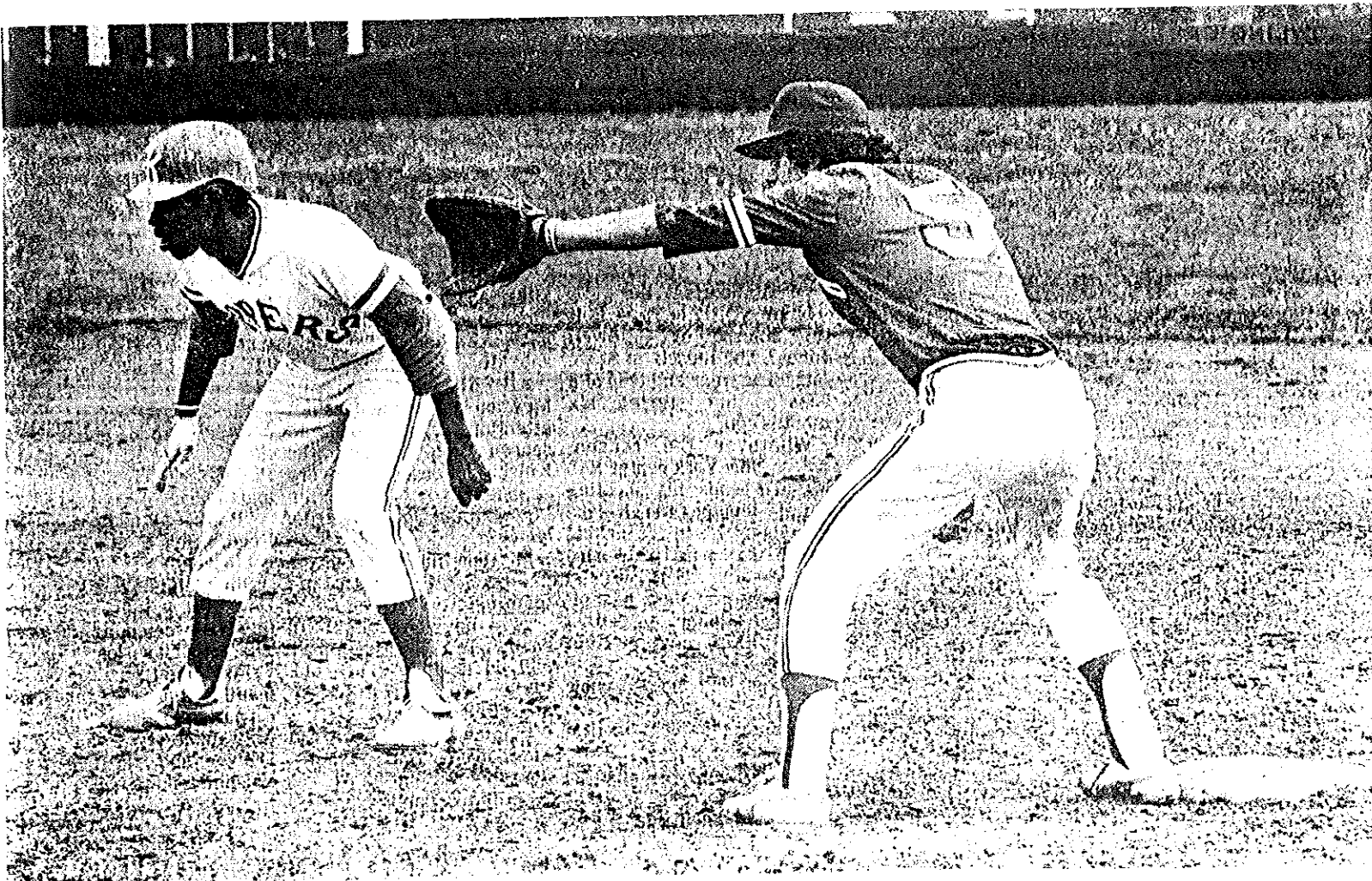
Owned by Ed Randle of Frankfort and Marion Webb of Danville, Little Majority flashed tremendous closing speed to win last Saturday's \$2,500 Open Pace in 2:03. The daughter of Silent Majority, trained by Morris Stubbs and driven by Mike Arnold, boiled her final quarter in :28 $\frac{3}{4}$ seconds to hike her 1978 bankroll to \$11,500.

Castleton Farms' Pleasure Ahead, a sophomore daughter of Good Time, trained and driven by Glen Garnsey, won Friday's \$1,500 pace restricted to fillies and mares in 2:03 $\frac{3}{4}$, also pacing her final quarter in :28 $\frac{3}{4}$.

Another top candidate is also from the Garnsey Stable. Silent Sally, an offspring of Walnut Hill Farm's Silent Majority, was second in Saturday's \$2,000 Pace, just missing the winner Galt Blue Chip, in the race clocked in 2:02 $\frac{3}{4}$.

pitcher Paul Orbison grimaces as he fires a pitch to the plate. Western lost the first game 2-0, and the second game was called at 2-2 after 12 innings because of darkness.





Win some, lose some . . . tie some?

WESTERN BASERUNNER Leonard Phillips (above) takes a short lead off first base while Austin Peay's Phil Wolcott guards the bag during Wednesday's scheduled doubleheader at Nick Denes Field. Below, Western

Toppers' bats go limp

By CLARK HANES

Daily News Sports Editor

Western and Austin Peay tried stubbornly to get in their last Ohio Valley Conference divisional games of the season here Wednesday, but learned it's not nice to fool Mother Nature.

The two Western Division rivals completed the first game of the twin bill despite cold, rainy weather, with Austin Peay winning 2-0, but the second game was called at 2-2 after 11 innings because of darkness.

Western managed only five hits in each game. David Wright hurled shutout ball for the visitors in the opener, while teammate Ricky Richardson had a no-hitter going for six innings in the nightcap before seeing the game go into extra innings.

Western, which dropped to 21-12 on the spring, had scored 14 runs on 20 hits in the split of a doubleheader last week at Peay.

"I've said it before and I'll say it again," noted Hilltopper coach Barry Shollenberger. "Hitting is

great, but it comes and goes. You can't depend on it."

Not that it mattered. By splitting a twin bill at Murray the past weekend, Shollenberger's team had already clinched the Western Division title. The loss in the opener left Western at 8-3 in divisional play, while Austin Peay finished up at 5-6.

In fact, the second-year coach figured that might have been the Hilltoppers' problem Wednesday.

"I'm afraid that's what it was," he said. "We were very listless. I fought against that, and I guess I'm going to have to keep fighting it until the 5th of May. I've got to convince them you can't just turn it off and on."

Shollenberger was referring to the upcoming OVC playoffs against Eastern Division champion East Tennessee here on May 5-6, with the winner advancing to the NCAA regional later that month.

"Our defense is what beat us in that first game," he continued. "Both of their

runs were unearned."

After two scoreless innings, Phil Wolcott singled to start things off for the Governors in the top of the third. Next came an infield error, a single by Jim Janacone, another error and a single by Gary Baker.

The first error of the inning came when losing pitcher Paul Orberson booted a bunt by Brian Cross, and the second came when leftfielder Tommy Sapp misplayed Janacone's single.

Mike Murray and Jim Atkinson, the leading hitter in the OVC, each finished with two hits for the Hilltoppers in the first game, but Wright put down every scoring threat the home team managed to instigate. Orberson, a senior left-hander, also finished with a five-hitter but dropped to 5-3 on the season. With a win, he would have tied a record set eight years ago by Donnie Durham for most victories in a single season.

"That's a shame," said Shollenberger, "because he

really deserved to win."

In the second game, Austin Peay jumped on top in the opening inning. Tony Lamb started the game with a single, but was forced at second on a Baker ground ball. However, Baker moved to third on Nick Maneri's single and scored on a fielder's choice.

The visitors' 1-0 lead held up until the bottom of the seventh, when Frankie Hughes powered a long homer over the left field fence to spoil Richardson's shutout as well as his no-hitter.

Richardson's teammates gave him another run in the top of the 10th on a two singles and a pair of sacrifices, but Western again tied it in the bottom of the inning with the help of two Austin Peay errors. After one additional inning, the game was called.

"We had so many chances to win it," lamented Shollenberger. "It was just very frustrating. They say coaching can win the close ones, you know, and I felt like I should have been able to get us a run somewhere along the way."

Western begins a four-day road trip through the eastern part of the state this weekend.

Austin Peay	002	000	0	2	5	2
Western	000	000	0	0	5	2

Wright and Cross,
Orberson and Kendall.

Tops playing under FMC guise

For those of you who thought baseball season was over at Western, think again.

Spring semester finals were finished over a month ago at the university, as were the Hilltoppers. Western's season ended the first weekend in May, with Barry Shollenberger's team dropping a best-of-three series to East Tennessee in the Ohio Valley Conference playoffs.

However, Shollenberger has turned Western's baseball program into another British Empire. The sun never sets on it.

This summer, for instance, several Western players—past, present and future players, that is—are participating in the rugged Kirby Farrell Baseball League in Nashville. It's no coincidence that they're playing together on a team sponsored by FMC, and it's also no coincidence that (you guessed it) Shollenberger is the coach.

Make that player-coach. A former pitcher himself, the second-year skipper is a little short of fellow hurlers

this summer and has had to call on himself to pitch in both league games so far.

"I got the win last night," Shollenberger quipped. "I just thought I'd throw that in."

Western assistant coach Joel Murrie also plays some with the local team, but neither he nor Shollenberger gets in the game unless desperate measures are needed. The more they see of the players, the better, and the less they see of themselves, the better.

"Hey, if I don't get to play, that's fine with me," Shollenberger said. "My arm's about to fall off this morning."

Team members include former Western players, present Western players and future Western players. Home-grown catcher David

Kendall finished out his career with the Hilltoppers the past spring, but Shollenberger picked him up because the team needed an extra catcher.

The other catcher is Mike Green, a junior who saw part-time duty the past spring. Two more players in the same category are second baseman Charlie Payne and outfielder Tommy Sapp, both seniors-to-be.

Other team members include Brent Harris and Jimmy Cooper, two Warren Central products now playing in the junior college ranks; Carl Estelle and Mike Gray, two Western football players also interested in baseball; Joe Hathcock, a transfer from Middle Georgia who had to sit out the past spring; Randy

Anderson, a transfer from Indiana University who will sit out the coming year; Ricky Despeaux and Kenny Fox, both recent signees, and Rick Becker, who is expected to sign with Western in the next few days.

Harris and Cooper, both infielders, are former Warren Central stars. Anderson and Fox are also infielders, Hathcock and Despeaux are both outfielders, Estelle pitches and catches, Gray pitches and plays the outfield, and Becker is a blue-chip pitching prospect from Cincinnati.

"This summer league is mainly for the young kids on our team who didn't get to play all the time during the season," Shollenberger said. "It also provides an opportunity for anyone coming to Western or even interested in coming to find a place for themselves before fall practice starts."

★★★

If Becker signs as expected in the next few days, he'll be the sixth blue-chipper inked by the Hilltoppers.

Shollenberger's latest signees are Rick Williams of Toronto, Calif., Mark Williams of Tampa, Fla., and Fox of Nassau in the Bahamas. Already announced were Mark Lepson, a pitcher from Baltimore, and Despeaux, a transfer from Lurleen B. Wallace Junior College in Andalusia, Ala.

Rick Williams will be coming to Western after one year at Merced (Calif.) Junior College, the state junior college champions (38-4) the past spring. The 6-2, 195-pound righthander logged a 7-1 record with a 1.93 earned run average.

Mark Williams is also a righthanded pitcher who posted back-to-back 9-3 seasons at Hillsborough Community College in Tampa, where his juco team was ranked first in Florida and third in the nation most of the spring.

Fox played the last two years at Chipola Junior College in Marietta, Fla., helping his team post a 41-5 record the past spring.

★★★

Shollenberger has also been beating the bushes for graduate assistants, and it appears the Hilltoppers will have a five-man staff next season.

Joining Shollenberger and Murrie will be Ken Dominguez of Tampa, Fla., Mike Nethero of Columbus, Ohio, and John Donati of Winter Haven, Fla. Dominguez helped out in the signing of Mark Williams, while Donati had a hand in basketballer Kenny Ellis' decision to come to Western.

Dominguez has been an assistant coach at Florida Junior College in Temple Terrace, Fla., the past two years, while Donati has been an assistant at Polk Junior College in Winter Haven the last two seasons. Nethero coached at Sequoyah High in Atlanta the past spring, and was named coach of the year in Georgia.

Tops ink juco baseball star

One of the top junior recruited by LSU, college baseball prospects in Mississippi State and the South, Ricky Despaux of Auburn.

Crestview, Fla., has signed a The 6-1, 180-pounder national letter-of-intent with played both center field and Western. shortstop in the junior

Despaux, who played the college ranks. However, he last two years for Lurleen B. will probably play in the Wallace Junior College in outfield at Western, according to WKU assistant Andalusia, Ala., finished coaching to coach Joel Murrie who with a .337 batting average coached Despaux in high the past year, along with school at Crestview. seven homers, 41 runs batted in and 37 stolen bases.

Despaux hit .468 his senior year at Crestview to earn college team to a 31-10 All-State honors, and was an record this spring, and chose All-Stater both years in the Western after being hotly junior college ranks.

ETSU Wins OVC Baseball

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — Designated hitter Mike Shifflett batted East Tennessee State University to the baseball championship of the Ohio Valley Conference here yesterday.

Shifflett hit two home runs and drove home five as the Buccaneers took a 7 to 5 victory in the third game of the series, which began Friday with a split. Western won the first game, 8-4, but ETSU took the second, 3-2.

Jeff Andrews, with seventh inning help from Don Minnick, picked up the pitching victory in the championship battle. ETSU will represent the OVC in the NCAA Regional tournament, the site and time for which has not yet been determined.

Western Ky.	103 100 210 — 5 9 3
ETSU	202 102 00x — 7 13 2
Baker, McKinley (5), Biven (6), Williams (3), and Kendall; Andrews, Minnick (7) and Lower.	

Western Kentucky Faces ETSU For Ohio Valley Baseball Title

Bowling Green, Ky. (AP) — Western Kentucky (24-18) was to meet East Tennessee (26-17) today for the Ohio Valley Conference baseball championship and a trip to an NCAA regional tournament.

The teams split a doubleheader Friday. Western, Western Division titlist, won the opener 8-4 in 10 innings as Paul Orberson got his eighth win against four losses.

Eastern, ruler in the East, took the second game 3-2, forcing the third game in the best-of-three series this afternoon.

Leading 1-0 in the first game when ETSU tied the score in the ninth inning, Western took advantage of three errors and six hits in the top of the 10th to notch seven runs.

Jim Atkinson knocked in two runs with a triple during the spurt.

In the second game, ETSU took an early 2-0 lead on a home run by Mike Ellzey and an error. The Buccaneers added another run in the fourth with a homer by Gary Rolen.

Western scored both its runs in the seventh on three hits including a home run by Frank Hughes.

Atlee Hammaker gave up four hits and struck out five for the win while Mark Biven took the loss.

★ ★ ★

Murfreesboro — Middle Tennessee carried a 13-point lead into today's final events in the Ohio Valley Conference track meet.

MTSU swept the top three places in the long jump Friday as Shiekh Faye leaped 25 feet for top honors. Roscoe Kidd won the high jump at 6-11 as MTSU racked up 42 points to runnerup Murray's 29 after five events.

Kerry Whitman of Morehead won the javelin with a toss of 210 feet and Louis Kenny of Murray State was first in the 10,000-meter run at 29:02. Scott DeCandia of Eastern Kentucky won the shot put at 56-7.

Other team scores were Western Kentucky 18, Morehead 17, Austin Peay 10, ETSU nine and Tennessee Tech three.